Town Council Minutes (Approved)

<u>6: 30 p.m. Public Hearing on Proposed Ordinance Titled "Ordinance Authorizing the Lease or Licensing of Town Owned Land Located on Old Forge Road"</u>

The Rocky Hill Town Council held a public hearing on Monday, March 16, 2015 in the Council Chambers of Town Hall. Deputy Mayor Bell called the public hearing to order at 6:30 p.m. Those in attendance: Mayor Henry Vasel (Entered at 6:44 p.m.), Councilor Meg Casasanta, Councilor Guy Drapeau, Councilor Joe Kochanek, Councilor Bill MacDonald (Entered at 6:40 p.m.), Councilor Tim Moriarty, Councilor Frank Szeps and Councilor Cathy Vargas. Also present were Town Manager Guy Scaife and Finance Director John Mehr.

Deputy Mayor Bell mentioned that Mayor Vasel was detained at Rocky Hill High School because he was giving out a Proclamation to Best Buddies. Town Attorney Morris Borea said they were present this evening to approve this agreement and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Solar City, which has been selected as the preferred developer for this. He had been part of the Committee that helped to develop the RFP (Request for Proposal) for this and this has been a long process. Miles Hovis, Project Development Manager from Solar City, would be making a presentation about this project. Bill Stillinger, who is the consultant that has been retained by the Town and also was on the Committee, would also be making a presentation regarding the selection process and some of the financial aspects of this project.

Deputy Mayor Bell asked Jo-Anne Booth to read the Proposed Ordinance aloud and in full.

Miles Hovis gave a PowerPoint presentation. (Please see the attachment.) He also showed on a presentation board what the proposed project design would look like. After the presentation, Deputy Mayor Bell asked the Councilors if they had any questions. Councilor Drapeau told Miles Hovis that he seemed pretty confident about utility rates going up over the next twenty years and he asked for some type of a giveback to the taxpayers if the commodity rate goes below what is being offered. Mile Hovis said this is unfortunately impossible with the financing structure and not something that they can guarantee. Councilor Drapeau understood. Town Manager Scaife said the Town made a choice to lean heavily on the energy savings as they looked at structuring this deal because they felt like they had a higher probability of a long term financial benefit to Rocky Hill. There is some risk but the belief is that this will probably be on the up side. The Town will get twenty years of cumulative site use revenue. He told the public that it is very important for them to be aware that this will continue being Town property so they will have an asset at the end of this period and an economic benefit as proposed.

Councilor Kochanek confirmed that the Town will be paying all of the taxes above and beyond the PPA Rate of \$0.10/kWh for 20 years. Miles Hovis said there are taxes impended into the cost of the system that Solar City will pay as a nontaxable entity. Councilor Kochanek read aloud from the Solar City Power Purchase Agreement that "The Purchaser shall either pay or reimburse Seller for any and all taxes assessed on the generation, sale, delivery or consumption of electricity produced by the System or the Interconnection of the System to the Utility's distribution system". Miles Hovis said this is something that is unlikely but it should be

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contemplated within the scope of the agreement. This is an issue of the preponderance of risk that will be bore by Solar City. It is very unlikely that there will be sales tax on the power and it is very unlikely that the Town will become a taxable entity in the next twenty years but the risk, however small it is, must be bore by the Town because the financial entities can't take this on.

Councilor Moriarty asked what the solar panels' life expectancy is. Miles Hovis said these will have a commercial life of thirty-two years. After the end of Solar City's twenty year agreement with the Town, there are three options. One is that the agreement can be extended by mutual consent for periods of five years, upwards of three five year chunks. Another is that all of the components can be removed and the Town would get the site back as it was minus some vegetation. The last one would be that the Town could purchase the system. Councilor Moriarty asked if the Town's amount of return off of this property would change or if Solar City would get that if someone comes out with a solar panel that is more sustainable and that could generate more power, etc., ten years down the road. Miles Hovis thinks at this point that it is very unlikely that a revolution would occur sometime in the next twenty years but Solar City would have to come back to the Town for an amendment to the agreement if that is the case. Town Attorney Borea referred to the way this will be set up and he said the most that each block can generate will be 1.2 kilowatts under the current regulations and this is why they have to use three different blocks. They are locked into this. Miles Hovis said it would likely have an effect on Solar City's agreement with the utility to compensate them for the generation of the power so this would add to the unlikeliness of them changing this fundamentally. Councilor Moriarty asked what the biggest piece of property would be that would be needed to make this feasible to do the same thing if Rocky Hill had other properties and the Town Council wanted to generate more revenue. Mayor Vasel asked Councilor Moriarty if he meant what the smallest piece of property would be and he said yes. Mayor Vasel asked if this could be done on three or five acres. Miles Hovis said three acres would be a little bit on the small side. This production will max them out at approximately 90% so the risk would be run of pushing them over what they need by adding any additional capacity. Solar City has very preliminary plans for using the balance of the system. The parcel is basically a boot shape and they are talking to some of their wholesale purchasers about buying the rest of the boot. An additional site use payment would be negotiated for the remainder of the site but the Town wouldn't have any interest because their need would already be fulfilled. The MOU contemplates a right of first refusal that Solar City has for using the boot.

Councilor Szeps said the solar panels will be subject to the Town's property taxes because they have a value and these will be on Town property. Miles Hovis said there is an exemption for solar power in the State. Councilor Szeps asked if there is an exemption from Rocky Hill. Town Attorney Borea said the question as to whether or not any of the personal property is taxable isn't addressed in any of the agreements and they will do whatever the law provides. Miles Hovis said the cash flows involved with the system are very straightforward. Solar City will get money from the State, the federal government and from Rocky Hill to supplement the system. They are encouraging the Town to think about the site revenue as a combined tax plus lease value for the use of the site. There is an exemption in Connecticut currently for municipal taxes and it isn't contemplated in the very straightforward economic model being presented here.

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Councilor Kochanek referred again to the Solar City Solar Power Purchase Agreement and how it states that the system and facilities damaged by the Sellers, other than negligence, shall be restored but then he referred to how it states that it is the purchaser's obligation to pay 50% of the restoration if the facility is damaged or destroyed by casual or any kind of other occurrence other than the Seller's gross negligence, etc. He asked Miles Hovis if he could explain this. Miles Hovis said this basically addresses certain catastrophic situations in which if more than 50% of the system is destroyed then Solar City has the right to terminate without penalty unless the Town is willing to compensate them 50% for the repairs. The Town is obligated to pay Solar City if they decide that they wish to continue the agreement after a catastrophe. Councilor Kochanek confirmed that if a hurricane, etc. took out more than 50% that the Town would either pay to help have this fixed or they would terminate the whole project. Miles Hovis said or this would be that Solar City would walk away but this is a very unlikely scenario because the solar panels are tough to break.

Councilor Moriarty made a motion to recess the Public Hearing at 6:59 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilor Vargas and adopted unanimously.

The Rocky Hill Town Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday March 16, 2015 in the Council Chambers of Town Hall. Mayor Henry Vasel called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance: Deputy Mayor Nadine Bell, Councilor Meg Casasanta, Councilor Guy Drapeau, Councilor Joe Kochanek, Councilor Bill MacDonald, Councilor Tim Moriarty, Councilor Frank Szeps and Councilor Cathy Vargas. Also present were Town Manager Guy Scaife and Finance Director John Mehr.

Councilor Vargas made a motion to recess the Town Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Bell and adopted unanimously.

Councilor Vargas made a motion to reopen the Public Hearing at 7:01 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilor Moriarty and adopted unanimously.

Mayor Vasel asked if the Town Council had any more questions. Councilor Drapeau knows the power that will be generated will be used by their schools and their buildings and he asked if this will cover 100% of the usage they will need or he asked if there will be some leftover either way. Miles Hovis said there will be the kilowatt hours and the total energy bill. This will not be directly tied into any Town facilities but they will be connecting directly to the grid. He referred to Virtual Net Metering. Once this leaves the meter (on the site), it will be converted into a cash credit which will be applied up to fifteen of the Town's highest use meters. The monetary credits will roll over in perpetuity if the value of the credit in any one year is \$0.25 or \$0.30 because of something that happens in CL & P. This will be using approximately 90% of their kilowatt hours and approximately 85% of their energy costs. Councilor Drapeau asked if there is a transmission fee and he asked if the \$0.10 includes the transmission fee. Miles Hovis said this is applied to everything and the transmission fee will be credited.

Town Attorney Borea introduced Bill Stillinger. Bill Stillinger said he is the President of a solar company in Massachusetts that is called Pioneer Valley Photovoltaics Incorporated. He had been the Director of Research and Development for Northeast Utilities. Town Attorney Borea

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had contacted him in December of 2013 to see what this process might look like. Virtual Net Metering had been fairly new at that time but that isn't the case today. Bill Stillinger mentioned that Town Attorney Borea had suggested that this had to be a competitively bid situation and a public offering, which it was. Bill Stillinger said Ray Carpentino (Economic Development Director) had issued an RFP in June of 2014 for interested bidders and there had been a site visit walkthrough. Five bidders had submitted their proposals to Rocky Hill. Solar City and Winstanley were the two most promising bids. Both of those bidders were met with and interviewed. Solar City emerged as being the clear winner and it was concluded that they were the first choice. He referred to the energy savings and the lease payments that Miles Hovis had mentioned. Bill Stillinger didn't see a scenario where energy costs for electricity will be decreasing any day soon so he thinks this is a relatively low risk overall and he thinks the economics of the project are clear. There is no provision at the present time for there to be any taxes on this purchase of power under the Virtual Net Metering Regulations.

Mayor Vasel asked if anyone else from the Town Council had any questions. Councilor Szeps asked if there aren't going to be questions from the public seeing they are in a Public Hearing. Mayor Vasel wanted to make sure that the Town Council was all set. Councilor Szeps said they had this item on their agenda for this evening's Town Council meeting also and he asked if they were going to "regurgitate" their questions when they addressed this again. Mayor Vasel said they couldn't address the applicant at that time. He asked if anyone from the public had any questions for Miles Hovis or Bill Stillinger. Town Attorney Borea added that Bill Stillinger was part of the working group that had put the Virtual Net Metering Regulations together.

Mayor Vasel referred to the access road going to the site. He asked about if there should be a washout on that dam and the wires take a hit. Miles Hovis said that is a degree of regularity that would be addressed as part of their intensive design plan and the permitting they will engage in with the Town. This is a consideration that they will deal with further down the road. Mayor Vasel asked about the maintenance of the access to the site. Miles Hovis said Solar City will maintain this for their periodic access in accordance with some guidelines that they will frame in the planning process with the Town. Mayor Vasel asked if Solar City will pay for the installation of stone if there are any ruts and if they will do snow removal, etc. Miles Hovis said this will be to the extent that it will be necessary to access the site.

Councilor Vargas asked if the areas will be fenced in. Miles Hovis said there will be a seven foot fence, which is required by the electrical code.

Councilor Moriarty asked what the Town's liability will be if people trespass onto the land and get injured seeing it is the Town's land. Town Attorney Borea said there is about a 99% probability that there wouldn't be any liability to the Town for someone who is trespassing. The agreement provides that Solar City is in charge of the site and security. The access road is a dual one for Solar City and for the Town so that would be a different issue. He also mentioned that they also have insurance for all of this.

Councilor Szeps made a motion to close the Public Hearing at 7:15 p.m. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Bell and adopted unanimously.

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Deputy Mayor Bell made a motion to come out of the recess for the Town Council meeting at 7:16 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilor Vargas and adopted unanimously.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Vasel asked for a Moment of Silence to be observed for June Cooke and for Berta Martino who passed away in the past few weeks. June Cooke had done a lot of work on Dividend Pond and she researched the Town for Rocky Hill. Berta Martino had been a Town employee for fifty-one years.

Public Comment

Mayor Vasel asked if anyone from the public wished to speak and no one did.

Mayor Vasel said he had a Proclamation for National Public Health Week (April 6, 2015 – April 12, 2015). He asked Judy Sartucci and Marti Stiglich to come forward. Mayor Vasel read the Proclamation aloud and in full. Judy Sartucci, said she is a resident of R.H. and is one of this Town's two appointed representatives for the Central Connecticut Health District (CCHD). She had been the Chairman of the Board of Health for CCHD last year. Marti Stiglich is the other appointed representative. Judy Sartucci thanked Mayor Vasel for the Proclamation. She thanked the Town Council and the public for their continued support of the Health District and its activities. Judy Sartucci said National Public Health Week is special to them so that they can celebrate their successes to better ensure the health of the public. It also reminds them of the challenges that are ahead. Too many people of all different backgrounds and ages are living shorter lives and are suffering from various health issues, etc. The CCHD has a new Director of Health and he is bringing a lot of dynamic leadership. The CCHD has a committed Staff that is highly knowledgeable and skillful. There is also an active and committed Board at the CCHD. They are all about helping to improve the health in the health district. Marti Stiglich thanked Mayor Vasel for appointing her to the Public Health Board. She told the public that they will be seeing a lot in the press about National Public Health Week and she said "Happy Health" to everyone.

Appointments/Resignations

Mayor Vasel asked Minority Leader Moriarty if he had any appointments or resignations and he had none.

<u>Deputy Mayor Bell made a motion to nominate Sean Hussey as an Alternate member for the Planning and Zoning Commission.</u> The motion was seconded by Councilor Szeps and adopted unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

A. Town Council Meeting – February 17, 2015

Town Council Public Hearing and Meeting of March 16, 2015

Councilor Moriarty made a motion to approve the Minutes of the February 17, 2015 meeting of the Town Council. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Bell and adopted unanimously.

Subcommittee Reports

A. Finance

Councilor Vargas said the Finance Committee had a meeting on March 11, 2015. Two of the items that had been discussed at that are on this evening's Consent Agenda. Town Manager Scaife had presented his first run of the update of the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 budget at that meeting.

B. Public Safety

Deputy Mayor Bell said the Public Safety Committee had a meeting this evening at 5:45 p.m. The RHPD notified the Committee that there was one ambulance call in February at 60 West Street and there are fifty-one residents there now. Three new recruits are finishing their training at the Police Academy and they will be sworn in on March 19, 2015. The RHFD is developing a proposal for right-sizing their fleet and this will come before the Town Council. The air packs will be reduced by approximately twenty as a result of that and they are hoping to come up with some considerable savings with the new vendor also. She thanked Fire Marshal Renstrom for all of his callouts in the last month due to the weather. Deputy Mayor Bell said Town Manager Scaife had also clarified an issue that a citizen had brought forth with regards to the Police shoveling sidewalks in front of the RHPD.

C. Government Operations Committee

Deputy Mayor Bell said she had no report for the Government Operations Committee and their next meeting will be held on April 6, 2015 prior to the Town Council meeting.

D. <u>Land Acquisition & Farmland Preservation</u>

Councilor Szeps said the Open Space Land Acquisition & Farmland Preservation Subcommittee had met this evening at 5:30 p.m. Executive Session was their only item and that was for the purpose of developing strategy for a possible real estate acquisition. At the next Town Council meeting, this Subcommittee is hoping to bring some details to the Councilors in an Executive Session so this can be discussed further with them.

E. Senior Affairs Committee

Councilor Vargas said the next meeting of the Senior Affairs Committee will be held on April 20, 2015.

F. <u>Liaison to State Representative and State Senator</u>

Councilor Szeps had no report.

Public Hearing and Meeting of March 16, 2015

Consent Agenda

Deputy Mayor Bell made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilor Moriarty and adopted unanimously.

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A. <u>Authorization to Enter Master Lease Agreement for Photocopiers/Printers Equipment-</u> Town Wide Consolidating Lease Program

Town Council
Resolution
March 16, 2015
Photocopiers – Town Wide Management Program

WHEREAS Kyocera of New England, 716 Brook Street, Rocky Hill, CT will be issuing a check for \$41,592.55 to pay off and return the current photocopier leases that the Town has with vendors for photocopiers currently located in various Town departments.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Manager or Finance Director is authorized to enter into a 60 month master agreement with Kyocera of New England, 716 Brook Street, Rocky Hill, CT, for the Town to lease twelve (12) photocopiers that will be located in various Town departments at a monthly lease cost of \$1,991.46. The Town would pay a \$0.006 per black & white copy and \$0.05 cost per color copy cost as part of the Copier Management Program that includes all parts, labor, service, and supplies (except for paper and staples).

B. <u>Authorization to Extend Operating Lease Renewal for Modular Classrooms at Stevens</u>

Town Council Resolution March 16, 2015

Operating Lease Renewal Addendum – Stevens School Modular Classrooms

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Rocky Hill Town Council authorizes the Town Manager or Finance Director to accept a 36 month term lease renewal option for the three (3) modular classrooms at Stevens School with Modular Space Corporation (ModSpace), 179 Cross Street, Bristol, Connecticut with a monthly lease payment of \$1,890.00. This is a 36 month leasing arrangement with a cost to the Town for the removal of the modular classrooms at the end of the lease period. These modular classrooms lease payments will be funded by charging the Capital Improvement Budget – budget line 01-950-000-5797 for Portable Classrooms – Stevens School in the coming years' budgets.

Report and Recommendation

The Town installed three modular classrooms back in the summer of 2011 at Stevens School as part of the closing of Moser School. The Town's monthly lease payments have been \$1,800. The Superintendent of Schools and the Board of Education Chairman agree with the three year addendum.

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New Business

A. <u>Discussion and Adoption on the Proposed Ordinance titled "An Ordinance Authorizing the Lease or Licensing of Town Owned Land Located on Old Forge Road"</u>

Councilor Szeps made a motion to approve the Ordinance Authorizing the Lease or Licensing of Town Owned Land Located on Old Forge Road. The motion was seconded by Councilor Kochanek and adopted unanimously.

WHEREAS, the Town of Rocky Hill issued a request for proposals (RFP) for the development, construction and interconnection to the utility distribution system of a solar photovoltaic generation system to be located on Town owned land;

WHEREAS, Solar-City Corporation (Solar-City) submitted a proposal in response to said RFP;

WHEREAS, the Town has determined that it is in its best interest to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and one or more Solar Power Purchase Agreement(s) (PPA) with Solar-City as a result of the RFP process;

WHEREAS, said PPA(s) provide for the transfer of an interest in real property owned by the Town to Solar-City for the purpose of locating said generation system on Town owned land;

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Charter Section C4-16, said interest in real property can only be transferred through the passage of an ordinance after a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Town Manager is authorized to execute said MOU and PPA(s) upon the passage of the subject Ordinance;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF ROCKY HILL that the following Ordinance is adopted:

The Town of Rocky Hill is authorized to transfer an interest in Town owned land located on Old Forge Road pursuant to the terms of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and one or more Solar Power Purchase Agreement(s) (PPA). The Town Manager is authorized to execute said MOU and PPA(s) on behalf of the Town of Rocky Hill. A copy of said unsigned MOU and PPA(s) is on file in the Town Clerk's Office and said MOU and PPA(S) are incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth herein.

THIS ORDINANCE WILL TAKE EFFECT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TOWN CHARTER

B. <u>Authorization for Town Manager to Execute Memorandum of Understanding for</u> the Potential Lease of Town Owned Property Located on Old Forge Road

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Deputy Mayor Bell made a motion to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Town Manager to Execute a Memorandum of Understanding for the Potential Lease of Town Owned Property Located on Old Forge Road. The motion was seconded by Councilor Szeps and adopted unanimously.

WHEREAS, the Town of Rocky Hill issued a request for proposals (RFP) for the development, construction and interconnection to the utility distribution system of a solar photovoltaic generation system to be located on Town owned land;

WHEREAS, Solar-City Corporation submitted a proposal in response to said RFP;

WHEREAS, the Town has determined that it is in its best interest to enter into, among other things, a Memorandum of Understanding and a License or Lease Agreement with Solar-City as a result of the RFP process;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Town Manger is authorized to execute said Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of the Town for the purpose of entering into an agreement with Solar-City and the consideration of an Ordinance to authorize the Town to License or Lease Town owned land to Solar-City.

C. Update 2015/2016 Budget Process – Town Manager

Town Manager Scaife said he was presenting a preliminary budget this evening and he stressed this is for the Town only. The information he was sharing was not only his information but he said it was "ours" because it was the Town Staff's and his. The Department Heads worked diligently over six months to help educate him, as well as to diligently work on ways they could become more efficient as they serve the public and cut costs. He told the Town Council by the end of this evening that they will hopefully see that good progress is being made with that. He personally recognized Mona McKim, who is the Treasurer and Accounting Manager, because she has worked tirelessly to put this presentation together and she has been a great help in working with all of the departments.

Town Manager Scaife gave the PowerPoint presentation. (Please see the Attachment.) At the end of this, Town Manager Scaife told the Town Council that he would discuss any items they wanted to, as well as talk about the timeline of the budget. Councilor Vargas said she was trying to get a handle on the timeline. The Town Council has a regular meeting scheduled for April 6. 2015. She asked if they were planning on having a lot of business in addition to Town Manager Scaife's presentation because she would like to primarily focus on the referendum and on the CIP but she didn't want to take away from having the Town Council meeting. There used to be extra budget sessions in the past for them to discuss things. She confirmed that the Town Council would be getting the detail for the budget on March 31, 2015 like they normally got in the past and she asked Town Manager Scaife if they are planning on asking any detail questions about the departmental budgets to him. Town Manager Scaife said the Town Council will be getting the detail for the budget on March 31, 2015 and he believes that they are starting this process much earlier than they had in the past. This will give them more time to analyze this and they are also getting new actuals every month so they are continuing to work these numbers. He

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really would like to focus on the justification for the referendum and CIP on April 6, 2015. He also thinks it is critical for them to hear from the Board of Education because of the proposed increase that they presented. They can plan a work session on April 6, 2015 right after the hearing but he said that three weeks will still be left. He thinks it is important for people to look at the referendum, CIP and budget together. Councilor Vargas appreciated that but she said that the budget presentation will be an agenda item on the Town Council's normal meeting. She really wants to look at the referendum and CIP and she thinks they should just have a discussion on those. She doesn't want to take away from one of the Town Council meetings to do this unless everyone else is okay with it.

Councilor Moriarty understands what Town Manager Scaife is trying to do but he isn't in favor of having Police cars in a referendum because they expire by the time they end up paying for them. Councilor Moriarty told the Town Council that they can discuss this on April 6, 2015 and he thinks they should come up with a schedule of meetings that night too to use as needed. He mentioned that CIP will drive where this budget will be at. If the referendum doesn't pass, they will still have to have a backup plan. He thinks they need the numbers for all of the different projects and he doesn't think that anyone would argue that any of these projects are not needed. He asked if all of the CIP for the schools are in the Board of Education's budget. Town Manager Scaife said there will still be projects that the Town Council will have to approve and they will have the Board of Education track theirs separately for transparency. Councilor Moriarty told them that they are all aware per State Statute that a Board of Education budget can be cut by only so much. He said if the Board of Education adds things into CIP, which look like one-time spending things, for them not to think that those are and they have to be careful about that.

Councilor Casasanta agrees with Councilor Vargas that the Town Council's session on April 6, 2015 is going to be "jam packed" so she thinks they have to come to a decision as to whether they want that session to just be strictly on CIP and the referendum or if they want to include the agenda items for their regular meeting. They could possibly even start the meeting at 6:30 p.m. to cover the agenda items and then discuss the other issues at 7:00 p.m.

Councilor Szeps mentioned again about how he is planning on having an Executive Session held at their Town Council meeting on April 6, 2015 so that he could talk to them about land acquisition. The sooner the better it will be to get that information to them.

Councilor Kochanek asked about also meeting on April 7, 2015. A discussion took place. It was decided to have the regular Town Council meeting on April 6, 2015, including the budget presentation, and the special meeting will be held on April 8, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. Finance Director Mehr confirmed that the items that are just going to be put on the agenda for April 8, 2015 will be CIP and the referendum seeing that will be a special meeting. Mayor Vasel said this will be whatever Town Manager Scaife sees fit. Finance Director Mehr said they also have to remember about the availability of the room.

Councilor Moriarty said this Wednesday that the Planning and Zoning Commission will be looking at the zoning change on the Ames' property to being a mixed-use one, which he thinks is long overdue. He would like the Town Council to support this and he asked everyone what their opinion is about this. Mayor Vasel said the Town Council wouldn't know what they are

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supporting and he said it also isn't fair for the Town Council to go one way or the other until there is the public hearing. Councilor Moriarty agreed. He thinks the center of Town and that piece of property is a major factor for Rocky Hill going forward.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Vasel said the pictures of the Mayors have been moved to the hallway outside Council Chambers and there is some new artwork in the Council Chambers that has been done by students. The artwork has been done by Stephen Gerrick, Leon Novak, Veronica Guyer, Rachel Walsh, Devon Cranmer, Sara Goia and Paul Szaro.

There was a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Rocky Hill Community Pharmacy, which is owned by Rocky and Judy Patel, and is located at 366 Cromwell Avenue. Mayor Vasel welcomed this new business.

Boy Scout Troop 121 gave an Eagle Scout Award to Hank Leitzke on March 7, 2015. Mayor Vasel said it was a phenomenal ceremony.

The 103rd Anniversary of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America was on March 12, 2015. Mayor Vasel had given a Proclamation to the Girl Scouts naming that Girl Scout Day in Rocky Hill. Several of the girls had received a Bronze Award, which is the highest award that a Junior Girl Scout can achieve. Audrey Grant created study apps using vocabulary flashcards for her class at West Hill School. Alyssa Gau had Capitol information to create a study app. Katie Oostendorp created a presentation about all of the fundamentals of soccer. Sarah Whalen is following in her family's footsteps at Hayes Farm and she gave the Junior Troop a tour of the farm, as well as created a presentation about the farm. Eshani Patel created an app that is a presentation about India, which includes information about their holidays, tourist destinations and languages spoken there. Mayor Vasel congratulated all of them.

The St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held this Saturday in Hartford at 11:00 a.m. Mayor Vasel congratulated Margaret Moriarty, who will be the Grand Marshal, as well as State Senator Paul Doyle and State Representative Tony Guerrera, who will both be the Honorees.

Mayor Vasel said he had given a presentation earlier this evening for the Best Buddies Program, which enhances the lives of people who have disabilities. There had been a Best Buddies Volleyball Fundraiser on March 9, 2015 in the gym at Rocky Hill High School to help raise money for the Best Buddies Semi-Formal.

Girl Scout cookies are being sold at Stop and Shop on Town Line Road, Webster Bank and West Side Market on the weekends.

Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Scaife said he had nothing else to add.

Executive Session

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A. Executive Session – Pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 1-200(6)(E) and 210 (b)(10), to discuss legal opinion prepared by Attorney Michael Rose of Rose Kallor, LLP, with the Town Manager and Director of Human Resources and Legal Compliance

Councilor Szeps made a motion at 8:32 p.m. to go into Executive Session – Pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 1-200(6)(E) and 210 (b)(10), to discuss legal opinion prepared by Attorney Michael Rose of Rose Kallor, LLP, with the Town Manager and Director of Human Resources and Legal Compliance. The motion was seconded by Councilor Moriarty and adopted unanimously.

Councilor Vargas made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 9:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Bell and adopted unanimously.

Adjournment

Councilor Vargas made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Bell and adopted unanimously.

As there was no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo-Anne Booth